GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:95
ANSWERED ON:22.11.2006
APPLICATIONS FOR LANDLINE CONNECTIONS
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Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of applications received for issue of Land Line Telephone Connections by the MTNL/BSNL in the country, as on date;

(b) the number of connections released as on date;

(c) the total number of applications pending for new telephone connections;

(d) the steps taken by the Government for the disposal of these pending applications; and

(e) the time by which the applications are likely to be cleared?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a) The number of applications received during current financial year (1.4.2006 to 31.10.2006) for issue of Land Line Telephone Connections by BSNL and MTNL, as on date, is about 10.37 lakhs and 1.517 lakhs respectively.

(b) The number of connections released as on date by BSNL and MTNL is 12 lakhs and 1.511 lakhs respectively.

(c) The total number of applications pending for new telephone connections as on date is 10.48 lakhs in BSNL and 616 in MTNL.

(d) Pending applications are mostly for provision of new telephone connections in remote, rural and far flung areas. To provide connections to these applicants, the following steps have been taken:

(i) Restoration of outdoor cable norms to 5 Kms. against the earlier standard of 2.5 Kms for Land Line connectivity wherever such demands exists.

(ii) Large scale Wireless in Local Loop (WLL) network have been deployed in rural areas to meet the demand of scattered and far-flung areas where connection of telephone is not possible on landlines. For this propose, expansion of WLL network by 25.2 lakhs lines had been planned and order for supply of this equipment is expected to be issued in November, 2006.

(e) Receipt of applications and connections released is a continuous process. A new land line connection is released in 3 days time subject to technical feasibility. However, most of the waiting list as on 31.10.2006 is likely to be cleared by December, 2007 progressively.